

AMENDMENTS

IN THE ABSTRACT:

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A DECODER FOR A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE

A decoder for a wireless communication device comprising a calculator for calculating the modulo of a linear approximation of a MAX* function; and a selector for selecting a MAX* output value from the group $a(n) \bmod F$, $b(n) \bmod F$, and the calculated modulo based upon a determination as to whether a predetermined threshold value for $|a(n) - b(n)|$ has been met, where $a(n)$ is a first state metric, $b(n)$ is a second state metric, C is the predetermined threshold value and F is a value greater than $|a(n) - b(n)|$.

(Figure 4)